

OCA 88-3143
22 September 1988

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Presidential Signing Statement for FY89 Intelligence
Authorization Bill

1. Today I spoke with James Murr, Assistant Director for Legislative Reference at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), concerning the Presidential signing statement on our FY89 Authorization Bill. I informed Mr. Murr that the Director had sent OMB a letter describing his views on this enrolled Bill and offering suggested text for a brief Presidential signing statement. Mr. Murr personally had not seen either.

2. I described for Mr. Murr our views on the Inspector General issue, the Director's strong feelings that this Bill should not be vetoed and our preference for a signing statement that did not reopen the Inspector General issue with Justice and the Congress.

3. I thanked Mr. Murr for the cooperation shown us by Annette Rooney of OMB in dealing with this issue. I also noted, however, that I was a little concerned at Annette's recent inability to give us a categorical assurance that we would see any proposed draft signing statement.

4. Mr. Murr noted that Annette was properly reluctant to make a categorical promise owing to the necessity for protecting the confidentiality of some of these exchanges but he said that in this case, as a result of the Director's strong feelings and primary role regarding the Intelligence Authorization Bill, he had no doubt OMB would be able to forward to us the signing statement in draft. He noted further that OMB would inform us promptly if anyone proposes to add to our signing statement a passage related to the constitutionality of the Inspector General provision.

5. I thanked Mr. Murr for his cooperation and underscored that we would be looking forward to hearing from him before this issue was resolved. He made a parting reference to the possibility that we might simply have the Bill signed without any signing statement.

[Redacted Signature]

John L. Helgeson
Director of Congressional Affairs

D/OCA/JLH: [Redacted] (22 Sep 88)

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